GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3136
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Mega Destination Development Scheme
Mishra Shri Anoop

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on "Mega Destination Development Scheme" for consolidation of tourists resources in the country;
(b) if so, the names of the tourist places in the country included for development under the scheme;
(c) whether the Government proposes to develop renowned tourist sites under the scheme;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e): Identification and development of tourist destinations is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. The Ministry of Tourism on its part has launched the National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) Scheme for developing religious destination/sites.

The 23 destinations identified under the scheme include Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Dwarka (Gujarat), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Belur (West Bengal), Gaya (Bihar), Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Srisailam (Andhra Pradesh), Somnath (Gujarat), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

Ministry of Tourism has also launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, under which 13 theme based circuits have been identified for development, spanning the entire country, which include the North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.

The details of projects sanctioned to States/UTs under the PRASAD and Swadesh Darshan Schemes is given at Annexure.

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